

AN
ADDRESS
TO THE
FREEMEN and FREEHOLDERS
OF THE
CITY of DUBLIN.

WHEREIN,

The Insinuations, false Representations, and unjust Aspersions, contained in Mr. *Lucar's* eighteenth Address, and reflecting upon Alderman *Kane's* Character, in the Purchase of the Mills at *Island-Bridge*, are set in a NATURAL, TRUE, AND JUST LIGHT, and at this particular Juncture recommended to the serious and dispassionate Examination of the Citizens of *Dublin*.

By Alderman NATHANIEL KANE.

DUBLIN:

Printed by RICHARD JAMES, at *Newton's-Head*,
in *Dame-street*, opposite *Sycamore-alley*. 1749.

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By Alderman NATHANIEL KANE.

DUBLIN.

Printed by RICHARD JAMES, at Newton's Head,
in Duncannon, opposite Spencer's Alley. 1793.



ADDRESS

TO THE

Freemen and Freeholders, &c

WHEN I published the Letters, which passed between Mr. Lucas and me, I naturally expected, that whatever he had to alledge against me, would have been immediately produced, and from his Silence I imagined, that I should have had no more Occasion to appear in Print. Altercation is neither suitable to my Years, nor agreeable to my Inclinations: Age will not, without Reluctance, enter into the Bustle, nor can a painful Disorder readily admit the Attention, requisite to Controversy; yet the Defence of Truth, and the Vindication of a Character, unjustly, maliciously levelled at, are Motives, which no Man of Honesty can withstand, which no Man of Spirit would not readily comply with.

I confess, that the Charges made against me in Mr. *Lucas's* Papers, particularly in his eighteenth Address, are so disguised in Insinuations, and so wrapt up in artful Deceit, and the Persons, whom he introduces, as privy, if not accessory, to my Wickedness, are so well approved in the City, as incline me to believe, that these his false Charges make but small Impressions, and gain but little Credit. Yet I think it highly necessary to take some publick Notice of his Falsehoods, calculated to my Prejudice, not only to justify my Reputation, and that of my Friends, as far as they are concerned, but also to undeceive you, my Fellow Citizens, many of whom have by his Arts been deluded into a weak Admiration of this my Slanderer, and have chosen him as your Head and Leader.

Had the Accusations, which Mr. *Lucas* either makes, or insinuates against me, been true, and that upon some Signal Provocation, he had made them publick to the World, there are few, I believe, who would have attempted to justify his Conduct, when no End could have been answered by it, but the Ruin of my Reputation. But if no Provocation has been given, if his Presumptions be groundless, his Insinuations be malicious, and his Assertions false, what Complexion of Guilt must his Character appear in, who without Cause or Reason has traduced the Innocent, deceived the Unwary, and endeavoured to impose on the World?

I may indeed have provoked him, for I have often differed from him in Opinion, and have always acted and voted according to my Judgment and Conscience; or in his own Words not *dared to be dishonest*; but whether I have given the least grounds for his Calumnies against me, let the candid and dispassionate Reader of the following Pages, judge.

The Purchase of the Mills at *Island-bridge* from Mr. *Darby* for 3500*l.* has raised his warmest Indignation against me, of this he has loudly complained in the several Corporation-Halls, and in his Address. In Page 40, he saith, *who made Overtures of the Sale of these Mills to the City, or who proposed the City's purchasing them, I cannot determine: And in page 41, how or where this Treaty was begun, made, or conducted does not publickly appear.* I must therefore intreat your Patience to read over this short Account of that Transaction, as it will clear up many Facts unfairly represented, and even inform my Adversary, whose Ignorance of many Points

Points has been supplied by Malevolence, and his want of Knowledge filled up with Rancour of Spirit.

About the latter End of July 1741, Mr. Scanlan, Overseer of the City Water-works, came to my House, and informed me, that the City was then in great Distress for Water, that he now found the *Dodder*, or *Temple-oge River*, insufficient to supply it in a dry Season, and that altho' what he had to propose would not answer our present Exigency, yet it was absolutely necessary to provide a better Fund of Water for the Time to come, or otherwise his Skill, and the several Pipes laid down at a great Expence, would be of no manner of Use. He told me, that he apprehended the *River-Liffey* near *Island-Bridge* was the only Place, from which we could draw a certain and a sufficient Supply, that it would be highly advantageous to the City to purchase the Mills at this Place, by the help of which, Water could be conveyed into the City, at a smaller Expence, than if new works were to be Erected: he also informed me, that he had reason to believe that some private Persons, Brewers, and others, had laid a Scheme to purchase these Mills, in expectation of no inconsiderable Advantage by furnishing the City with Water, not doubting but that they would procure the Assistance of the Parliament to empower them to bring Water into the City, since the Corporation declined it. I was much affected by this account from Mr. Scanlan, of whom I always had, and have the best Opinion, both as to his Skill and care in the management of our Water-works: I enquired, if he had consulted the Lord Mayor (then Sir *Samuel Cooke*) he answered that he had, and *Alderman Pearson*, and that by them he had been referred to me, desiring me to write to Mr. *Darby* concerning these Mills. My utter Unacquaintance with Mr. *Darby* made me for some time hesitate upon this, however recollecting, that a near Relation of my Son-in-Law, Mr. *Matthew Weld*, was married to a Daughter of Mr. *Darby's*, I told Mr. Scanlan, that I would get a Friend, who had a Relation married in Mr. *Darby's* Family, to sound Mr. *Darby's* Disposition, as to the Sale and Price of these Mills. Mr. *Weld*, accordingly wrote to his Uncle the Reverend Mr. *Isaac Weld*, then at Mr. *Darby's* seat in the Country, who discoursed Mr. *Darby* upon the Subject, and in a Post or two Mr. *Matthew Weld* received for Answer, that Mr. *Darby* would dispose of the Mills on Terms agreeable to him, that his Price was

4000l—

4000*l.*——and that he desired to know the Person inclined to Purchase. For such had been my Caution, least any Advantage should have been taken of the Necessities of the City, that I not only enjoined my Son-in-Law to keep my Name secret, but did not even acquaint him, nor did he know that this Transaction was for the City, as will appear by his Certificate, Number 1.

I afterwards declared myself to be the Purchaser, and when I had used all Methods to make Mr. *Darby* lower his Price, and that with great Difficulty I had brought him down to 3,500*l.*——I acquainted him that I had acted for the City, and I thought proper to inform the Lord Mayor with what had passed between Mr. *Darby* and me. Upon this the Pipe-water Committee was summoned, and this Affair was laid before them, of which they made a Report to a Post-Assembly, which the Lord Mayor called upon that Occasion, which Report and Act of Assembly are here subjoined, No. 2.

From this time I concerned myself no further in this Affair, but as a Member of the Committee, where I advised and pressed them to a speedy Determination: yet this matter remained unfinished from the 14th of *August* to the 15th of *March* following. To whose Fault this Delay is to be charged, I cannot now remember, Mr. *Darby* wrote to me several complaining Letters, and at length came to Town, to bring the Transaction to a final Issue.

In the Interval between the 14th of *August* and 15th of *March*, there was a new set of Commons chosen, and consequently a new Committee struck for the better supplying the City with Water: Mr. *Lucas* was one of the Committee, and opposed with as much Earnestness, as I endeavoured to forward, the Purchase of these Mills; and altho' we were of different Opinions, yet at that time did I believe that we acted upon the same Principles. As regard to the Welfare of this City. His Objections were always heard with Patience, the Methods proposed by him in Opposition to those of Mr. *Scanlan*, met with proper Attention and Encouragement; the City-Surveyor, and other Officers were ordered to attend him, and to take such Levels as he should direct. The Committee further ordered, that his Remarks and Scheme should be sent to them in order to be answered by Mr. *Scanlan*, as appears by an Order of the Committee, No. 3.

All the various Schemes proposed for supplying the City, were coolly and seriously considered, the Assistance of Gentlemen, on whose Knowledge they had the highest Dependence

All

was brought in, particularly that of the late Recorder, who under no obligation of Duty, at several times attended. Thus having taken all necessary Precautions and Care, (as may be seen in the Appendix, No. 4.) they at length determined by a Majority of *twelve to four*, for the Purchase of the Mills, at 3,500*l.* and that a Report of their Opinion should be made the next Assembly, which was accordingly called upon the 15th following, and in which the Committee's Report was confirmed by a large Majority, not of a House *not much exceeding forty* (as Mr. Lucas affirms in page 47) but of a House about *seventy* in Number; and from what I have heard, I may venture to appeal to the Memory of Mr. *Martin Kirkpatrick*, and Mr. *John Tracey*, as well as many others of the then Commons, whether there was not at least that Number, besides the Sheriffs. What he says of all the *Materials and Appurtenances belonging to the Mills, Ware and Water Course being actually purchased*, and that the Proprietor brought in a *separate Account for a Boat, Net, Beams, Scales, a Bolting Cloth, &c.* Altho' this Account be not chargeable with absolute Falshood, yet is it with unjust Representation: there is no such Word as Appurtenances in the Act of Assembly, there is indeed the Word *Materials*, and these Particulars, as Boat, &c. were thought by some of the Committee to be therein included: Mr. *Darby* observed that these were *Movables* not *Materials*, and after some Debate, the Committee consented to pay a low Price for them, somewhat I believe under ten Pounds. As to the Breaches made in the Ware, they happened indeed before that the City had entered into Possession, but long after that the first Act of Assembly for Purchasing the Mills had passed, and Mr. *Darby*, who complained heavily of the dilatory Proceedings of the City, thought it very hard, that any Accident which should happen to the Works, during the Delay occasioned by the City, should be to his sole Prejudice; he made it appear, that he had expended 40*l.* in the Repairs of these Breaches, of which the City, taking the Matter into Consideration, allowed him 20*l.* And this is the true State of that Affair as appears by the Committee Book.

At the latter End of Page 47, and beginning of Page 48, he tells, how *publicly he inveighed in Committees and Assemblies against this Purchase*, how he wrote against it in the Year 1743, as is to be seen in *Divilina Libera* (a Book which I never had the pleasure to read) and that he was not so much as contradicted, till at some Years distance (that is, when he him-
self

It was pleased to revive it) and that he no sooner glanced at the Story of the Mills in the Corporation Halls without naming any Name, than it—offended Alderman Kane's conscious Innocency. What he calls here a Glance at the Story of the Mills, has been thought to point very directly both at them and me; he did not indeed mention my Name, but his Description was so minute and particular, the Features of the Character he drew, so applicable to me, that there was no one who heard his harangue at the Weavers-hall, and had the least knowledge of City Affairs, but what immediately fixed upon the Person upon whose Character Mr. Lucas reflected. He asserted in this Hall, that the Mills at *Island-Bridge* had been hawked about the Coffee-houses, and offered by the Proprietor for 1800*l.* yet that a certain Alderman, remarkable for his presiding in City-Affairs, had influenced the City to give 3,500*l.* for them, in order to secure a large Sum due to him by the Proprietor.

Now whoever will take the Pains to compare the above Charge with his eighteenth Address, a Charge which I can prove that he made by a Cloud of Witnesses, must at first Sight see that I was the Person he there pointed at, tho' he did not think fit to use my Name; and altho' he is reduced to the Necessity of denying his own Words, or, which is the same Thing, of saying, *that no body can suspect him to be Fool or mad enough to assert it as a positive Fact*, does it not appear a base Prevarication? Is not this a low Subterfuge? And must not every honest Bosom disdain such little Arts?

Should I have heard, that the Mills had been offered by any one, in possession of them, for a lower sum than 3500*l.* I should certainly have endeavoured thereby to reduce Mr. *Darby's* demand, but I never heard it, 'till after that the bargain between the City and Mr. *Darby* had been concluded. I know that Alderman *How* and Mr. *Norton* had offered 4000*l.* for them to one *Feris*, a former Proprietor, but that he could not make out a Title, having sold a moiety of them to Mr. *Griffith*. Mr. *Samuel Onge*, Brewer in *Queen Street*, saith, that he knows not of their being offered to sale at any price; Mr. *Rose*, Apothecary in *Skinner-row*, saith, Mr. *Griffith* offered them to him for 2300*l.* but whether he could have cleared off the incumbrances on them with that sum, he cannot ascertain——Mr. *Griffith*, Distiller in *Dame-street*,
Son

Son to Mr. Griffith of the Mills, assured me, that he never knew of his Father's offering that interest so low as 2300 *l.* and that he thinks it very improbable, as he knows, that the incumbrances on them by Mortgage and judgments amounted to between 2500 *l.* and 3000 *l.*—Alderman *Percival Hunt* saith, that Mr. *William Noy* told him, that had he been employed in that purchase, he could have bought the Mills for 500 *l.* less, and that Mr. *George Thwaites* told him, that they might have been purchased 1000 *l.* under the price given; this is what he knows of the matter, with this addition, that he did not approve of the Bargain; but declares that he never said, or heard, that the said Mills were offered in the Coffee-houses, or elsewhere, for 16 or 1800 *l.* Three of these Gentlemen are mentioned by Mr. *Lucas* page 49, as able to open the scene of my iniquity, this is the Sum of what they know, of which not the least part can be wrested to my disadvantage. It may indeed be, that these Mills have born different values at different times; for an interest, which had no lands, no houses to secure an income, a profit on which, could only arise from the industrious and successful management of Mills, might very well vary in value according to the skill, care, and substance of those, into whose hands they fell. This however I shall pass over, as foreign to my purpose; the points in view are, when at the request of the *Lord Mayor, Alderman Pearson*, and Mr. *Scanlan*, I undertook to manage the purchase of these Mills, whether I executed the trust with common prudence and fidelity, whether I acted with an honest, disinterested view, with caution, and with secrecy; or whether I played the Villain, betrayed my Trust, and wronged the Publick to secure my private property.

It was much to be feared, that by the City's Delay these Mills would have fallen into hands, which might avail themselves of the want of the City, yet I took proper care to conceal these fears, and having taken all the proper steps, which my own reason suggested, and the advice of Men of knowledge recommended, I concluded a conditional bargain with Mr. *Darby*, which the City considered of, and which they were at Liberty to accept of, or reject. That Mr. *Darby* had no intention at the beginning of the treaty to take so low a price as 3500 *l.* much less to reduce his demand below that Sum, I have the greatest reason to believe, from the conversation I then had with his Son and other relations, but especially from the perusal of some original Letters (Copies of which are added here, Number 5) written at that
time

time and upon that Subject: These are to be seen with the Letter written by Mr. *Matthew Weld* in the Hands of the Reverend Mr. *Is. Weld*, who (if required) will prove them to be genuine, and from these it will appear that I acted with caution, that I informed Mr. *Darby* it was possible to get a supply elsewhere, and that I used my best endeavours to serve the City. The present Mr. *Darby*, who was empowered by his Father, to treat with me, knows what a part I acted, that I never proposed, nor could procure any private advantage from this purchase, that I exerted myself to reduce the price; and that his Father never owed me, nor our House one Farthing; he knows (which incident I recommend to your particular consideration) that not one Shilling of the Money was paid in to me, that it remained for many Years after the purchase in one entire sum, at Interest in the City's hands, and I believe, lies there to this day; he knows, that the Assembly put his Father under no obligation to take the City's Bond rather than the Money, but that it was so settled at his request and particular desire; and here I beg leave to subjoin a Certificate from Mr. *Darby*, Number 6.

To give some colour to his presumptions and suspicions, Mr. *Lucas*, has thought proper to break through manners and to trespass upon truth, to introduce *Alderman Dunn* (because allied to me) as an accomplice in my unfair designs upon the City. In page 40. he saith, *it was moved in the Committee, that the City might be supplied from the Liffey within the Liberties by an Engine. Which being agreed to, Mr. Dunn, now an Alderman, and Nephew in Law to Alderman Kane, was judged the fittest Engineer to view the River, and to report in what manner that Work may be effected: To this he was requested to comply, and the City Engineer and Pipe-Water Collector were ordered to attend him, but there is none Entry of Engineer Dunn's Report.* Mr. *Lucas* is pleased to fix the Time of this Incident soon after that Mr. *Weld* had wrote to the Proprietor of the Mills: That this is one of those intended Errors, which that designing Man has not only passed over, but purposely introduced to give my honest Intentions the Appearance of a Fraud, may be easily inferred from the Sequel. On the 30th of June 1741, the Committee met (at which I did not assist) and requested Mr. *Dunn* to view the River, in order to erect Wheels to supply the City with Water from the Liffey, as appears by the Order of Committee,

No. 7.

No. 7. Now this happened the thirtieth of June, near a Month before that I either knew, that the City had any Thoughts of these Mills, or that I should have been concerned in the Purchase, and near a Month before that Mr. Weld, at my Request, got mention of the Matter to be made to Mr. Darby. A less sagacious Man than Mr. Lucas must have found from the Committee Book (for from that Book he makes several Quotations,) that Mr. Dunn had no Powers to report concerning those Mills, that his View to be taken was by no Means relative to them, but to some Part of the Liffey near Town, that the Purchase of the Mills had not at this Time been under the Consideration of the Committee, and was a Point, not yet started, much less the Subject of Thought and Debate. The Sneers thrown at this Gentleman, and cast at me both in his Address and in many others of his Papers, are beneath my Notice: I confess my Want of Ability as well as of Inclination to retort them; for I know that, where Reputation is at Stake, to be wittily smart, is to be sportively cruel; my Business is not to prove that he is not a Man of good Breeding, it is to shew, that he is not a Man of Candour and of Truth, it is not to make his Indecencies manifest, it is to make his Untruths glaring to the City, and to the Kingdom.

In Page 45, he introduces with great Solemnity a Circumstance, to him seemingly full of Horror, *how shall I repeat it? The Deeds of a Purchase—made under the Influence, if not the absolute Direction of Alderman Kane, the reading of which that mild, smooth-tongued, pious good Man of conscious innocence so strenuously opposed, were all over full of—Blanks—for Sums and Dates.* As to the Deeds, I must have had my Adversary's Arrogance not to have expressed my utmost Confidence in the Recorder's Draught, and my Opinion of Mr. Noy's, the City's Agent, and the Town Clerk's having (as usual) carefully examined and fairly ingrossed them. I neither opposed, nor do I know of any one, that opposed the reading of these Deeds, nor did I ever see the City Seal affixed to a Deed before that it was first publicly read and cautiously compared. What Blanks were left in the Deeds I cannot tell, Blanks of several Sorts are frequently left in Deeds, till the Time of Perfection: But in this Case of what use could Blanks have been even to a fraudulent Intention

Intention? The City had stipulated for a certain Sum, were to give their Bond for the Purchase Money, and the Interest was to be paid upon the Bond. Now let any one suppose, that a very large Sum had been inserted instead of 3500 *l.* of what avail could this be to Mr. *Darby*? He could not sue the City for a larger Sum, as on the receiving their Bond for 3500 *l.* he must have signed his Conveyance to the City, and have given on the back of the Deed a Receipt for the Sum paid as the Consideration, which Consideration was agreed to be 3500 *l.* In this Point Mr. *Lucas* is not only unjust to me, but likewise to the rest of his Fellow Citizens, instead of alarming them with bare Words, he should have informed them what the Consequences of these Blanks might have been, he should have marked out to them, how the City could have been injured; but he did not mean to give you wholesome Information, in this Part his emphatical Marks were to fire your Imagination, and to raise in you, what he felt burning in his own Breast, groundless Suspensions, and causeless Enmity.

To compleat my deep Scheme, and make my Frauds pass without Opposition, Mr. *Lucas* has judiciously thought, that those to whose Examination the whole Proceeding was subject, and submitted, should be represented as men without Abilities, without Spirit and without honesty. He saith in page 47, *that it was much suspected, that the Commons were not regularly summoned, and it was afterwards credibly reported, that many were forbid to come to this Assembly, or otherwise discouraged from attending, that at best they were raw, and unexperienced, did not know they had a right to reject or oppose any thing that came under the sanction of a Fiat from the Gentlemen of the City.* Very small grounds have been hitherto sufficient for Mr. *Lucas* to raise strong Suspensions on; that they were regularly Summoned, appears from the Number that attended; and that Report which he is pleased to say was credited, could not gain Belief with any Person, who did not wish, and was not pleased that the report should have been true; for where are the Proofs? Is it to be supposed, that any Man who should act so daring, so wicked a part as to discountenance his Fellow-Citizens from attending their Duty, should remain unheard of, and unknown? or does it carry a face of Probability, that among such a number as the Commons of *Dublin*, that one of those might not have been produced, who

who were forbid and discouraged to come to this Assembly, if his Representations were true. The latter Part of the above quoted Paragraph does not only contain a most-unmannerly arraignment of the understanding of the Commons, but also a Falsehood equally severe, equally arrogant. Did none of the Commons understand or dare to do their Duty? What then became of the Sheriff's Peers? What became of the old experienced Commoners? There were many of these, and Mr. *Lucas* must know that there were some of his stickling Friends, who had served in the Commons before him, who well knew their right to reject the Aldermen's Fiat, and who never omitted an Opportunity to exercise that Priviledge. Did not he, tho' a new Commoner, know his Duty, and his Right! Did he not, as he saith in page 47, oppose the Report being received in the Commons? Must he not then by this very Opposition have shewn them their Right? And if unacquainted with their right and Duty, how came they to divide upon the Question? What a Banter is this upon Common Sense! How insolent a Charge of gross Ignorance against his Brethren of the Commons, that, tho' sworn into Office, they knew not their Duty in the first important Article!

In Page 49, he saith, that the Bargain was made by the designing crafty Ring-leaders of a top-heavy Faction, of which Alderman *Kane* was generally accounted the Head, which in page 39, he saith was the *Rose-Club*, of which he does me the Honour to suppose that I was Governor, as he is pleased to make me now one of the *Train of the opposite, now prevailing Faction*, page 39. There was a Meeting of some Aldermen of the City at the *Rose-Tavern*, in which I owned no Superior, nor looked upon any as my inferiors: the good Management of the City, and the publick Welfare, were the Motives on which we set out, and tho' there may be some Errors chargeable to this meeting, (as what body of Men are not liable to mistakes?) yet it cannot be said that they did not plan, that they did not bring to Maturity some Schemes of publick Advantage, among these I reckon the saving the Corporation 630 *l.*—*per Annum* by reducing the Allowance of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, and in lieu thereof, excusing them some publick Entertainments; among these I reckon the removing of the City Employments from the disposal of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, which before
were

were sold by, and allowed to them as a Perquisite, and ordering that they should hereafter be disposed of for the Benefit of the Corporation, and the Augmentation of the City Revenue by the Pipe-water, these I mention for the Information of the Publick, not out of any hopes to convince Mr. *Lucas*; this could have no effect on a Man, who makes it his Business to throw the best Actions of Aldermen into the worst light. I deny that I ever was a Member of the other Club, and altho' asserted by Mr. *Lucas*, I declare it to be an absolute Falsehood; I never met with them, I never received a Message from them, nor they from me, I never offered myself, nor was I ever invited to joyn with them; they are Gentlemen, my Friends, and in a political Sense my Brethren, as such I respect, honour and esteem them.

As to the Affair of the *Blue-Coat-Hospital*, which Mr. *Lucas* has hinted at in two or three different Places, I own that I am a Tenant; and at the same time I solemnly declare, that when first I became a Tenant, I knew not of the Clause, which disabled Governors from becoming Tenants. The Knowledge of this, joined with some other Considerations, has prevented me from making Improvements on the Premises, as I have feared that my Lease might at any time be legally vacated. As to the Arrears, my Case has been attended with some Circumstances that deserved a particular Consideration, I have therefore some time since presented a Memorial to the Governors, which now lies under Consideration of a Committee, and as I am satisfied, that they will act as it becomes faithful Trustees, and equitable Judges, I shall acquiesce with Pleasure under their Determination, and submit with readiness to their Award. I have never availed myself of any Interest, I have had either in the City or at the Hospital Board; this is the only Interest I hold under either, and I should readily give a large Consideration to the Hospital, to take this my much-envied Bargain off my Hands.

I could have enlarged much more on these two last Points, but as they are digressive from my main Question, I beg leave to return again, and as Mr. *Lucas* has summed up his Charge against me in his Recapitulation, I intreat that my Answers may be read with Patience, and weighed with Attention.

In attempting to account, says Mr. *Lucas*, page 48, for the most extraordinary Proceedings of this Alderman in getting
his

his Son-in-Law to write to Mr. Darby about the Mills. Is there any thing strange? Is there any thing wonderful in all this? Is it surprizing that I should employ my Son-in-Law, of whose Prudence and care I had a long and well-tryed Experience? Is it extraordinary, that I should give the Trouble to him, who was the only Person, within the Sphere of my Acquaintance, that could get the Matter proposed to Mr. Darby; in getting the Report concerning the supplying, the City with Water from the Liffey, near Lyons, suppressed or laid aside. This I deny, and defy him to prove it; in getting his Nephew Mr. Dunn, and Mr. Dunn, of all the Committee only to view Island-Bridge Mill and to project the new Works: this Point has been already proved to be false, in getting some of the Gentlemen of the City to inquire into the Purchase, and ascertain and determine the Value of the Mills: He might have said that I troubled many instead of some. I did inquire, I did advise with all those both Citizens and others, on whose Skill, Knowledge and Integrity, I could rely. Was this criminal? Or rather, was it not my indispensable Duty? In the Multitude of Counsellors, is there not Safety? and since Mr. Lucas has thought fit to run foul on my Character, when I have advised, and taken all proper Means, to be informed, in what Light should I have been represented, had I acted from my own Opinion only, had I appeared obstinate, and self-determined? If Mr. Lucas means to convey some Suspicion, by introducing Gentlemen of the City as my Advisers, altho' it may suit the present Temper of the Times, yet I cannot fear that it will make any Impression on my unprejudiced Readers; can any be supposed to be more immediately concerned or nearly interested to suppose otherwise is to conclude, that those who are under the most solemn Obligations to discharge, are the most remiss in the Execution of their Duty: How charitable, how humane would this be, in getting a Committee empowered to contract for the Sum mentioned; in hurrying that Committee to perfect Deeds without a Report to the Assembly; nay, in almost compelling them to put the City Seal to Deeds without reading them; in which upon reading many Blanks appeared. I know no Method, which the City can take in making a Bargain, so proper as that of appointing a Committee for that Purpose; for as the Assembly meet not together in one Place, the Aldermen and Commons sitting in distinct Rooms, it would

were sold by, and allowed to them as a Perquisite, and ordering that they should hereafter be disposed of for the Benefit of the Corporation, and the Augmentation of the City Revenue by the Pipe-water, these I mention for the Information of the Publick, not out of any hopes to convince Mr. *Lucas*; this could have no effect on a Man, who makes it his Business to throw the best Actions of Aldermen into the worst light. I deny that I ever was a Member of the other Club, and altho' asserted by Mr. *Lucas*, I declare it to be an absolute Falsehood; I never met with them, I never received a Message from them, nor they from me, I never offered myself, nor was I ever invited to joyn with them; they are Gentlemen, my Friends, and in a political Sense my Brethren, as such I respect, honour and esteem them.

As to the Affair of the *Blue-Coat-Hospital*, which Mr. *Lucas* has hinted at in two or three different Places, I own that I am a Tenant; and at the same time I solemnly declare, that when first I became a Tenant, I knew not of the Clause, which disabled Governors from becoming Tenants. The Knowledge of this, joined with some other Considerations, has prevented me from making Improvements on the Premises, as I have feared that my Lease might at any time be legally vacated. As to the Arrears, my Case has been attended with some Circumstances that deserved a particular Consideration, I have therefore some time since presented a Memorial to the Governors, which now lies under Consideration of a Committee, and as I am satisfied, that they will act as it becomes faithful Trustees, and equitable Judges, I shall acquiesce with Pleasure under their Determination, and submit with readiness to their Award. I have never availed myself of any Interest, I have had either in the City or at the Hospital Board; this is the only Interest I hold under either, and I should readily give a large Consideration to the Hospital, to take this my much-envied Bargain off my Hands.

I could have enlarged much more on these two last Points, but as they are digressive from my main Question, I beg leave to return again, and as Mr. *Lucas* has summed up his Charge against me in his Recapitulation, I intreat that my Answers may be read with Patience, and weighed with Attention.

In attempting to account, says Mr. Lucas, page 48, for the most extraordinary Proceedings of this Alderman in getting his

his Son-in-Law to write to Mr. Darby about the Mills. Is there any thing strange? Is there any thing wonderful in all this? Is it surprizing that I should employ my Son-in-Law, of whose Prudence and care I had a long and well-tryed Experience? Is it extraordinary, that I should give the Trouble to him, who was the only Person, within the Sphere of my Acquaintance, that could get the Matter proposed to Mr. Darby; in getting the Report concerning the supplying, the City with Water from the Liffey, near Lyons, suppressed or laid aside. This I deny, and defy him to prove it; in getting his Nephew Mr. Dunn, and Mr. Dunn, of all the Committee only to view Island-Bridge Mill and to project the new Works: this Point has been already proved to be false, in getting some of the Gentlemen of the City to inquire into the Purchase, and ascertain and determine the Value of the Mills: He might have said that I troubled many instead of some. I did inquire, I did advise with all those both Citizens and others, on whose Skill, Knowledge and Integrity, I could rely. Was this criminal? Or rather, was it not my indispensable Duty? In the Multitude of Counsellors, is there not Safety? and since Mr. Lucas has thought fit to run foul on my Character, when I have advised, and taken all proper Means, to be informed, in what Light should I have been represented, had I acted from my own Opinion only, had I appeared obstinate, and self-determined? If Mr. Lucas means to convey some Suspicion, by introducing Gentlemen of the City as my Advisers, altho' it may suit the present Temper of the Times, yet I cannot fear that it will make any Impression on my unprejudiced Readers; can any be supposed to be more immediately concerned or nearly interested, to suppose otherwise is to conclude, that those who are under the most solemn Obligations to discharge, are the most remiss in the Execution of their Duty: How charitable, how humane would this be, in getting a Committee empowered to contract for the Sum mentioned; in hurrying that Committee to perfect Deeds without a Report to the Assembly; nay, in almost compelling them to put the City Seal to Deeds without reading them; in which upon reading many Blanks appeared. I know no Method, which the City can take in making a Bargain, so proper as that of appointing a Committee for that Purpose; for as the Assembly meet not together in one Place, the Aldermen and Commons sitting in distinct Rooms, it would

would be almost impossible to transact such Matters in an Assembly; the Inconveniencies, and Delays, which might ensue from Messages, and trivial Differences, are too obvious to be insisted on. Now as the Assembly had received the Report of the Committee made the 14th of August, 1741, which has been referred to before, and that they had empowered the Committee to buy the Mills at any Sum not exceeding 3,500 l. and to borrow the Money on the City Seal, the Lord Mayor and several of the Committee, judged that they were vested with full Powers to finish and Seal the Deeds, to pay for and perfect the Purchase, and I own that I joined with them in Opinion: Mr. Lucas and others of the Committee insisted, that previously it ought to be reported to an Assembly, and our late worthy Recorder *Eaton Stannard, Esq;* being appealed to, he declared in Favour of making a Report to an Assembly, before that the Seal was affixed. This Gentleman, with whom I lately had the Honour of a Conversation on this Subject, informed me that he had a perfect Remembrance of the whole Transaction, and did me the Justice to declare, that I immediately fell in with, and that the whole Committee soon joined in his Opinion, so far is it from being true, *that the Recorder could no more convince the Gentlemen of the City than Mr. Lucas could,* p. 44. The late Recorder was pleased to add, that he thought the Purchase of these Mills as fair and as advantageous a Bargain, as he had known to be made in the City during his Time. I shall not dwell on the Weight of this Authority, this Gentleman's Knowledge and Integrity have been equally approved to all my Fellow Citizens, and both have been remarkably employed in the Defence of Truth, and the Support of Justice. Mr. Lucas goes on, *I say in endeavouring to account for any Man going these Lengths, it was generally presumed, that the Proprietor had borrowed Money from Alderman Kane, or was otherwise indebted to him, and I believe I might often have made this Presumption or Supposition:* As he was determined not to allow me a virtuous Motive, or an Intention of honesty, he looked upon it as an impossibility, but that I must have had some Motive of Advantage; for a little after he says, *Alderman Kane and his Friends say, that Mr. Darby was an absolute stranger to him, and never indebted to him, or the Bank in which he is concerned, one Farthing: Then it is to be supposed, that Alderman Kane took all these Pains for nothing: did he so?* I repeat it again,

again, I was not acquainted with Mr. Darby, he, or Mr. Griffith never were indebted to me, and I glory in saying, that I have often taken trouble and Pains for the City without the most distant View of Advantage. Mr. Lucas has taken much Pain and laboured hard; as he says, to promote the Happiness of his Fellow Citizens, without the least incitement of selfish Considerations? Is it not hard, that he will not allow any Portion of this benevolent Spirit to others? Shall it be said, that he has monopolized it all? Or rather shall it be said, that he has not one Spark of it? For since a Judgment, passed on the Motives of others, discovers what we feel within ourselves, what credit ought we to give to this Man's Professions of publick Spirit, who uncharitably derives the Actions of others from little, narrow, and fraudulent Motives? He says, that he was followed in his Suspicions of Fraud by the late Sir James Somerville and Alderman Hunt: I appeal to Sir James Somerville's Family, whether they ever heard him give a distant Hint of any such Suspicion, I know he did not look upon the matter in that Light; and Alderman Hunt declares, that he never thought at any time I acted an unfair Part, or that there was an Intension of Fraud in the Transaction. The Bargain could not have been either *clandestinely, suddenly, or forcibly made*; it was under Consideration for seven Months, the Committee received their Powers from the Assembly, and to them reported their Proceedings; under the Authority of the Assembly the matter was concluded, and by their Authority the Negotiation might have been stopped.

Thus I have laid this whole Transaction before you; you must see, my Fellow-Citizens, how my Reputation has been attacked without cause, how my Character has been assailed without Reason. To which of you, during my forty Years of Service in the City, have I denied my Advice, or refused my Assistance, when called upon? Or rather have I not been forward? Have I not been zealous in the Service of my Brethren? Which of you then can look upon the Injuries wantonly offered to me, without Indignation? Which of you can withhold his Resentment from this my malignant Enemy. He has informed you, that a Wrong done to any one Member of a Society must be felt by the whole; 'tis yours then to try him, 'tis yours to punish him for the contemptuous Usage offered to your Brothers, let him answer you, why he,

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who has pronounced that an Encroachment on the Rights of his Fellow-Citizens is to him intolerable, has invaded my dearest Right, has endeavoured to rob me of my sweetest Property: That Property of a good Name, which gives a Relish to all other Possessions, and attends its Owner even after Death. Let him answer you, how he has dared to give his Presumptions to the Publick, as sufficient to inform their Judgment? Or how he could consistently with Justice and Honesty, make a charge of Fraud without positive Proofs against him, whose Character has not as yet been sullied with Slander? He sues to you for a Place of Honour and of Trust: can you honour him, who reviles the Innocent? can you place a Confidence in him, who injures and wrongs his Brethren? You are well meaning, you are peaceful; can you be properly represented by him, who stirs up Dissentions among you? Or how can you look without Horror on him, who has laboured to cast a Blemish on the Integrity of your old Friend and Brother Citizen, and who has, without Provocation, without Reason, endeavoured by false Accusations to bring my grey Hairs with Sorrow and Infamy to the Grave.

APPENDIX.

Number I.

Mr. Weld's Certificate.

BEING called upon by Alderman *Kane*, to declare what I know of the Purchase of *Island-Bridge* Mills from Mr. *Darby*, I do hereby declare, that at the Desire of the said Alderman *Kane*, I did on the 25th of July 1741, write to my Uncle the Reverend Mr. *Isaac Weld*, then at Mr. *Darby's*, at *Leap* in the *King's County*, and did acquaint him, that a Friend of mine, whom I had not Liberty to name, having heard that Mr. *Darby* would sell his Interest at *Island-Bridge*, had requested me to enquire what he valued them at, and I desired my Uncle would let me know Mr. *Darby's* Answer, which in a few Days I received, and was to this Purpose; That Mr. *Darby* would sell the Mills, and demanded 4000*l.* for them, and desired to know who was the intended Purchaser.

I do also certify, that Alderman *Kane* desired me not to mention his Name in the Letter I wrote to my Uncle, and that I did not do it, nor did Alderman *Kane* acquaint me, nor did I know that the Mills were intended for the Use of the City.

I do not remember that I had any further Correspondence with my Uncle about it, as he and Counsellor *Darby* came soon after to Town; and I then thought, and am of Opinion still, that Alderman *Kane*, used the most prudent and cautious means to purchase the Mills on the lowest Terms; and am ready, if required, to testify the above Particulars upon Oath. B 2.

Given under my Hand,
this 3d Oct. 1749.

M. WELD

Number II.

Report of the Committee to an Assembly held the 14th day of August, 1741.

WE, the Committee for better supplying the City with Pipe-Water, inform your Honours, that the Inhabitants of this City, have of late been very badly supplied with Pipe-water, in consequence of which, we have inquired for and viewed several Rivers in the Country, in order to supply this Defect, which we apprehend will be attended with such Expence and Difficulties, that it will in no Sort answer the Expectation of sufficiently supplying the Inhabitants with Water; we therefore have considered, and are of Opinion, that the only Method of having a proper Supply of Water, will be from *Island-Bridge*, or thereabouts. Your Committee are further to inform your Honours, that some of the Gentlemen of the City, have been inquiring in Relation to the Purchase of the Mills at *Island-Bridge*, belonging to one Mr. *Jonathan Darby*, who for his Interest thereof, expects the Sum of Three thousand five hundred Pounds: We consulted with Mr. *Scanlan* about the Fund of Water there, and he is fully of Opinion, that there is a Sufficiency of Water to answer the City's End in this particular, and the most practicable Way for bringing Water to the City. This Work must be done by erecting one or more Engines to throw up the Water from thence to the North Road from *Island-Bridge*, in order to convey the Water to the City: The Expence of erecting each Engine, will amount to five hundred Pounds or thereabouts, as Mr. *Scanlan* informs us. Your Committee recommend that this or some other Committee, should be appointed to agree with the said Mr. *Darby* about the Purchase of the said Mills, which if agreed to, We apprehend the City, by setting the Fishery and Benefit of raising Sand, will pay the Rent due to the Crown, being about seventy-seven Pounds a Year. We therefore are of Opinion, that it will be greatly to the City's Advantage to purchase the aforesaid Mills, which in all probability will effectually supply the City with Water. We are further to inform your Honours, that there are five Wheels at these Mills, two whereof

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we apprehend will be sufficient for the City's Use, so that the other three may be set to a Tenant, together with the Mills, which will bring in a considerable annual Rent to the City; and humbly submit the same to your Honours, this 14th of August, 1741.

ORDER of the Assembly thereon, the same Day.

Ordered, that the former Committee be continued, to agree with Mr. *Jonathan Darby*, for the Mills and Water-Course at *Island-Bridge*, and the Materials thereto belonging, together with his Right and Title thereto, provided that the Purchase of the whole amount to no more than three thousand five hundred Pounds *Sterling*. And it is further Ordered, that when the Committee come to an agreement with Mr. *Darby*, and on his perfecting such Conveyance to the City, as Mr. Recorder shall advise, that then the said Sum of three thousand five hundred Pounds shall be borrowed on the City Seal, at *five per Cent.* for the Purpose above mentioned.

Number III.

Order of the Committee on mr. Lucas's Scheme.

February 26th, 1741.

THE Committee are of Opinion, that Mr. *Kendrick* attend Mr. *Lucas*, and take such Levels as he shall think fit at the River *Liffey*; and such Remarks as Mr. *Lucas* makes, to be given to Mr. *Scanlan*, to answer, which are to be laid before the Committee.

March 1, 1741. The Committee are of Opinion, that when Mr. *Lucas* delivers in his Scheme on the Levels, taken according to his Direction by Mr. *Kendrick*, the same may be given to Mr. *Scanlan*, that he may give in his Answer, in Writing, thereto.

Ordered, That Mr. *Darling* wait on Mr. *Lucas*, for the Observations he hath already made, and that they shall be given to Mr. *Scanlan* immediately, for his Answer thereto.

March

March 12, 1741. A Question being put, Whether this Committee be of Opinion, that the City should agree for the Purchase of the Mills at *Island-bridge*, with Mr. *Jonathan Darby*, at 3,500*l.* and report it to the next Assembly; and their being twelve Votes for agreeing to the Purchase, and reporting it to the next Assembly, and four Votes against agreeing thereto; it was carried in the Affirmative: It was therefore ordered, that a Report thereof be made to the next Assembly.

Accordingly this Report was made to an Assembly the 15th of *March 1741*, and confirmed by it the same Day, as appears by the Committee Book, which is referred to.

Number IV.

January 30, 1744.

THE Committee ordered, that about twelve Aldermen, there named, and about twenty four Commons, of which Mr. *Lucas* was one, or any five of them, be a Sub-committee for better supplying the City with Water, and to meet from Day to Day as they shall think proper; and every Gentleman on the General Committee, who shall think to attend, shall have a Voice on the said Sub-committee, and to meet on *Tuesday* next, at 12 a Clock at Noon.

February 2, 1741. The Committee met, and Ordered, that this Sub-committee meet on *Friday* next, at 12 a clock, in order to go to *Island-bridge*, and view the Mills.

February 8, 1741. The Sub-committee met, and Ordered, that Mr. *Scanlan* lay before the Committee, a Plan of the Engine and Wheels, as also a Survey of the Ground thro' which he intends to convey the Pipes, as also an Estimate of the Expence thereof. And it is further Ordered, that the Sub-committee be summoned to meet exactly at one a clock on *Friday* next.

February 12, 1741. The Committee met, and Ordered, that Mr. *Scanlan* lay before the Committee, a Plan of the method he intends to supply the City with Water from *Island-bridge*, and that he make an Estimate of the Expence that will attend the same.

Ordered,

Ordered, That the Sub-committee meet every *Monday* and *Friday*, at the *Gilt Chamber* in the *Tholsel*, exactly at 12 o'Clock, and to meet for the first Time, on *Friday* the 19th of *February* Instant.

June 30, 1741.

Mr. *Rainsford* Reported, that Mr. *West*, Mr. *Scanlan*, Mr. *Kendrick*, and he, went to view a Water-course which came from *Tipper* in the County of *Kildare*; that the said River is frequently very low, and diverted by Persons who live adjacent thereto; but are of Opinion, the City may be sufficiently supplied with Water out of the River *Liffey*, near the Common of *Lyons* in the said County.

Number V.

Counsellor Darby's Letter to his Brother-in-law the Reverend Mr. Isaac Weld.

Dear Isaac,

Philipstown, August 9, 1741.

MY Father shewed me your Letter, and Mr. *Matthew Weld's*, in relation to the Mills, he seems inclined to sell them, but seems to be positive as to the 4000*l.* Price; however, I desired, and begged him to write to you, and give you a Power to transact the Matter; and rather than lose this Opportunity, I recommended him to take 3,600*l.* if he can get it: He promised me he would give you Directions as I desired, by this Post.

I am, Yours,

JONATHAN DARBY.

Jonathan Darby, Esq'r's. Letter to his Son-in-law the Rev. Mr. Isaac Weld.

Dear Son,

Aug. 15, 1741.

I Thought I should have had a Letter from you by *Japhet*, but believe his coming was a sudden Thought of the Counsellor's. I wish his going so suddenly to Town, may not make the Gentlemen that are about buying the Mills, think I am in haste to dispose of them. The Counsellor mentions in his Letter by *Japhet*, that they will readily give me 3,500*l.* and no more; if that be the Resolution they are come to, I am sure they'll not have them. What I mention-

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ed to you in my last was, that 4,000*l.* was what I would have if I sold them; but as I find my Family are so earnest that I should sell, I am not willing to act contrary to what they so earnestly desire, tho' I can't say, could I prevail with your Mother, to go with me there to stay for four or five Months in the Year, but it might turn to a better Account, than even selling them at 4000*l.* but as I find its not agreeable to her, I shall never press it any more: I know they are too great a Concern to leave wholly to the Care of Servants; I have already suffered by their Management, and I wish those I have there at present may do me Justice. I am therefore willing to sell them, and to take a hundred or two Pounds less than the 4000*l.* but under that, I don't think to part with them. The Counsellor says, that Alderman Kane mentioned a Project they have of bringing some Water ten Miles from Town, which runs into the *Liffey*: I believe they can't do that, if it be any Detriment to the Mills built on the *Liffey*, or else I am misinformed. I should not be one whit the readier to sell them, from any Apprehensions of this. I have a very great Dependence on you in this Affair.

I am, Yours very affectionately,

JONA. DARBY.

Number VI.

Jonathan Darby, Esq's. Certificate.

BEING requested by Alderman Kane, to recollect the Circumstances attending the Sale, made by my Late Father, Mr. Jonathan Darby, of the Mills, &c. at Island-Bridge, to the City of Dublin, in the Year 1741: I do hereby declare, That the following Account thereof is just, and true in every Particular.

In the Year 1739, Mr. Onge obtained a decree to sell the Mills, Weirs, &c. at Island-Bridge, then in Mortgage to him for 1800*l.* or thereabouts, for Payment of his Principal, Interest, and Costs, which amounted to about 2000*l.* Mr. Darby having a demand of 300*l.* or 400*l.* subsequent to Mr. Onge's Mortgage, became the Purchaser; Mr. Onge's Friends bid so much as was sufficient to discharge his Demand, and Mr. Darby bought them for a small matter more;

more; the Mills were very much out of Repair at the time of the Sale, and with the Purchase Money, his own Demand, the Repairs he made, He computed that they stood him in 3000*l.* which I verily believe to be true. During the Life of his Son *John Darby*, who took Care of them, I have good Reasons to believe, he would not have Sold them almost, on any Terms, but I am confident he would not have taken 4000*l.* for them: Some Short Time after my Brother *John's* Death, which happened in the Summer of 1741, I received a Letter from Mr. *Darby*, that Alderman *Kane* was willing to purchase the Mills of *Island-Bridge*. I was then at *Phillipstown*, and went up from thence to *Dublin*, where I waited upon Alderman *Kane*, with whom I had not before had any sort of Acquaintance. I informed him of the Reason of my Journey, he answered he would purchase the mills, if I would sell them at a reasonable Price; I then demanded, I think, 4000*l.* for them. Alderman *Kane* answered, that he knew the Circumstances, under which Mr. *Darby* had bought the Mills, and thought Mr. *Darby* might sell them for about 2000*l.* I truly informed Mr. *Kane* that the mills stood him in about 3000*l.* and after much bartering, and great Endeavours used by Mr. *Kane* to pull down the Price, I assured him the lowest Penny would be 3,500*l.* that Mr. *Darby* would never sell them less, and I declare that I believe, had he himself transacted this matter, he would not have sold them so cheap. Having assured the Alderman that I would never sell them for less, he then acquainted me, that he had been desired by the City to make this Enquiry, that he would report my Answer to them, and let me know the Result in a few Days; I was accordingly in 2 or 3 Days after called upon in the *Tholsel* (at a Committee or Post-Assembly) by Sir *Samuel Cooke*, then Lord Mayor, to produce my Authority to sell; which I delivered, and did then sign an Agreement with the City, on the Behalf of Mr. *Darby*, to accept of 3,500*l.* for them: my Reason for believing that had Mr. *Darby* himself transacted this Matter, he would not have sold them so low, is, that when I had concluded the Agreement, and acquainted him therewith, he expressed his Displeasure at my selling them so low; and some Time after, when he attended the Committee to finish the Purchase, and a Debate arose among them upon the Subject of the Mills, he publickly offered them to resign the said Agreement, and keep the mills.

I do also declare, that I do not know, nor do I believe, that the said Mr. Darby ever had any Sort of Acquaintance or Dealings with Alderman Kane or the Bank; nor ever owed him or them any Money; nor do I know of any Motive, that could influence Alderman Kane to make the said Agreement, except the Service of the City. I never offered the said Mills at any Time, except to Alderman Kane, as above; nor do I believe, that Mr. Darby, or any one for him, ever did; nor was he inclinable to sell them, and it was with some Difficulty he was persuaded by his Family to consent to it, upon the Consideration of his Son John's Death, and that his own Years and Infirmities rendered him incapable of managing them to the best advantage.

Given under my Hand at Leap,
OS. 10, 1749.

JONATHAN DARBY.

Number VII.

June 30, 1741.

P R E S E N T,

Lord Mayor and Sheriffs.

Ald. Per. Hunt.

Ald. Pearson.

Ald. Rob. King.

Mr. Norton.

Mr. Rainsford.

Mr. David Latouche.

IT being proposed by the Committee, That the City may be effectually supplied with Water from the River Liffey, in the Liberties of the City, by erecting Wheels to throw up the Water, it is ordered, that Mr. Sheriff Dunn be requested to take Mr. Darling and Mr. Scanlan to view the River, and report to us in what manner that Work may be Effect ed.

N. B. That Alderman Kane was not present with the Committee this Day, altho' Mr. Lucas says in p. 48. that he got Mr. Dunn, and Mr. Dunn of all the Committee only, to view Island-Bridge mills, and to project the new Works, neither was this View at all relative to the Purchase of the mills, nor Mr. Dunn ever appointed to take any other View of the River or mills, from the Beginning to the End of this Purchase.

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